

February 3, 2003

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch  
Commission Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
CY-B402  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Proceeding 03-16

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Please accept this letter as formal support for full telecommunications competition in Michigan. The Michigan Health & Hospital Association (MHA) believes that SBC Ameritech - Michigan should be allowed to compete fairly in Michigan for all customers.

The MHA represents 145 charitable, nonprofit hospitals throughout the state. These hospitals rely on high quality, cost-effective telecommunications. We believe that the FCC should approve the application of SBC Ameritech – Michigan to enter the long-distance market, so we can enjoy the same benefits as other states that have allowed full and open competition.

Should you have any questions or further need for assistance, please contact Brian Peters, MHA group vice president of Advocacy, at [bpeters@lans.mha.org](mailto:bpeters@lans.mha.org).

Sincerely,

Spencer Johnson  
President